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February 2, 2001

Honorable Philip N. Asprodites  
Commissioner of Conservation  
State of Louisiana  
Post Office Box 44275  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4275

Re: APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

Bain Sand, Reservoir D, and Hosston B Zone,  
Reservoir A, BEAR CREEK FIELD, Bienville  
Parish, Louisiana.

Dear Sir:

EL PASO PRODUCTION COMPANY ("Applicant") hereby respectfully applies for a public hearing to consider evidence relative to the issuance of Orders pertaining to the following matters relating to the Bain Sand, Reservoir D, and to the Hosston B Zone, Reservoir A, in the Bear Creek Field, Bienville Parish, Louisiana:

1. To establish rules and regulations governing the exploration for and production of gas and condensate from the Bain Sand, Reservoir D.
2. To create a single drilling and production unit for the exploration for and production of gas and condensate from the Bain Sand, Reservoir D, such unit being shown on an attached plat and being designated BAIN RD SUA.
3. To force pool and integrate all separately owned tracts, mineral leases and other property interests within the proposed unit in accordance with Section 10, Title 30, of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, with each separate tract sharing in unit production on a surface acreage basis of participation.
4. To designate Applicant as Operator of the proposed unit.
5. To designate the El Paso Production Company--T. A. Loe Heirs No. 1 Well, located as shown on the attached plat, as the unit well for the proposed unit.
6. To provide that future wells drilled to the Bain Sand, Reservoir D, in Bear Creek Field be located in accordance with Statewide Order No. 29-E.
7. To define the Bain Sand, Reservoir D, in the Bear Creek Field, Bienville Parish, Louisiana, as that gas and condensate bearing sand encountered between the

Honorable Philip N. Asprodites  
February 2, 2001  
Page 2

depths of 7,352' and 7,374', electrical log measurements, in the El Paso Production Company--T. A. Loe Heirs No. 1 Well, located in the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section 35, Township 17 North, Range 6 West, Bienville Parish, Louisiana.

8. To permit Applicant to complete, designate and utilize its T. A. Loe Heirs No. 1 Well, located as shown on an attached plat, as an additional alternate unit well for HOSS B RA SUA, in exception to the well location provisions of Office of Conservation Order No. 78-Q, effective February 18, 1971.

9. To find that designation and use of the T. A. Loe Heirs No. 1 Well as an additional alternate unit well for HOSS B RA SUA is necessary to efficiently and economically drain a portion of the Hosston B Zone, Reservoir A, underlying HOSS B RA SUA which cannot be efficiently and economically drained by any existing well within this unit.

10. To authorize the downhole combination of production from the Bain Sand, Reservoir D, and the Hosston B Zone, Reservoir A, in the wellbore of the T. A. Loe Heirs No. 1 Well, and in the wellbore of any existing or future well located on BAIN RD SUA and HOSS B RA SUA in which the ownership interests in these units is identical.

11. To discuss such other matters as may be appropriate and justified by the evidence presented at the hearing.

The Hosston B Zone, Reservoir A, in the Bear Creek Field, Bienville Parish, Louisiana, was initially defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 78-Q, effective February 18, 1971, and was further defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 78-Q-8, effective July 6, 1982.

Pertinent data concerning this application is available for inspection at the offices of Louis Gilbert & Associates, Inc., 3636 North Causeway Boulevard, Suite 204, Metairie, Louisiana 70002-7216. Any person wishing to inspect such data should call Mr. Louis Gilbert at (504) 834-8112 during normal business hours in order to arrange a date and time for such inspection. A copy of any such pertinent data which is not otherwise available from the records of the Louisiana Office of Conservation can be obtained from Applicant at the expense of the requesting party.

By letter dated January 22, 2001, Applicant gave notice, in accordance with the Revised Rules of Procedure, of its intention to apply for a public hearing concerning these proposals and a pre-application conference with respect to

Honorable Philip N. Asprodites  
February 2, 2001  
Page 3

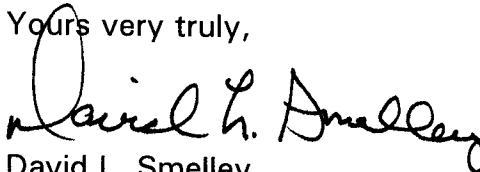
Applicant's proposals was tentatively scheduled for February 14, 2001. No request for the pre-application conference was received; therefore, no conference was held.

Attached hereto are plats sharing Applicant's proposed additional unit and alternate unit well location, which plats are identical to the plats attached to the pre-application notice. Also attached hereto is a list of the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties to whom a copy of this application is being sent. Pursuant to the Revised Rules of Procedure, such list is being forwarded only to the Commissioner of Conservation and to the District Manager of the Shreveport District of the Office of Conservation. A copy of the list will be furnished by the undersigned to any party so requesting. A reasonable effort was made to obtain a complete list of Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties.

Applicant will provide for posting of a copy of the Legal Notice of this hearing and the enclosed plats at a prominent place in the area affected and will cause publication of the Legal Notice in a newspaper published in the general area of Bear Creek Field, all in accordance with the Revised Rules of Procedure. Furthermore, a copy of the Legal Notice will be mailed to all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties promptly upon receipt of the Legal Notice from the Commissioner.

Finally, we enclose our check payable to the Commissioner of Conservation for the application fee.

Yours very truly,



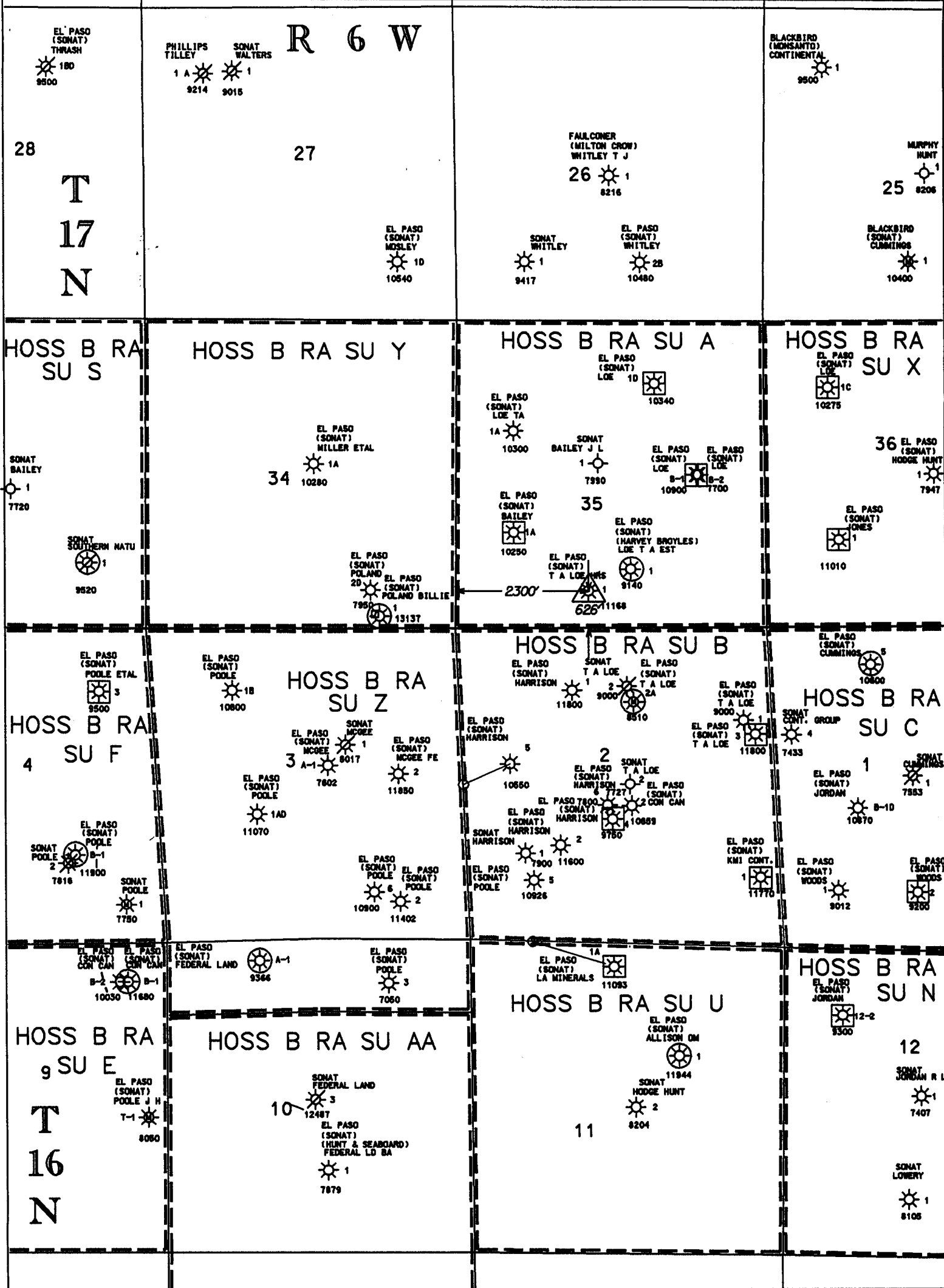
David L. Smelley  
Attorney for El Paso Production Company

DLS:dp

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Jim Broussard (w/encls.)  
Mr. Gary Griffith (w/encls.)  
Ms. Diane Giannone (w/encls.)  
Ms. Joyce Watts (w/encls.)  
Mr. Louis Gilbert (w/encls.)  
Interested Owners, Represented  
Parties and Interested Parties (w/plats only)





# LEGEND

- HOSSON B. RESERVOIR A UNITS AS PER 78-Q SERIES OF ORDERS
- UNIT WELL
- EXISTING ALTERNATE UNIT WELL
- △ PROPOSED ALTERNATE UNIT WELL

WELLS 7200' OR SHALLOWER  
REMOVED FROM BASE

EXHIBIT NO.

DOCKET NO. 00-

EL PASO PRODUCTION COMPANY

BEAR CREEK FIELD  
BIENVILLE PARISH, LOUISIANA

PROPOSED ALTERNATE UNIT WELL PLAT

HOSS B RA SU A

0 1000' 2000' 3000'

LOUIS GILBERT & ASSOCIATES, INC.